

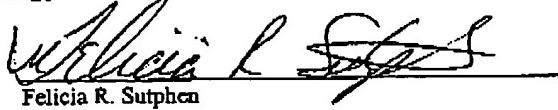
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APR 13 2006

PATENT

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE
AMENDMENT TRANSMITTAL LETTER**

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the United States Patent and Trademark Office on April 13, 2006.



Felicia R. Sutphen

Applicant	: Lutz Biedermann, et al.	Confirmation No. 9870
Application No.	: 10/647,096	
Filed	: August 21, 2003	
Title	: METHOD FOR THE MANUFACTURE OF A TUBULAR SPACER AND SPACER	
Grp./Div.	: 3738	
Examiner	: Alvin J. Stewart	
Docket No.	: 56731/B884	

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Post Office Box 7068
Pasadena, CA 91109-7068
April 13, 2006

Commissioner:

Enclosed is an amendment to the above-identified application.

CLAIMS AS AMENDED											
	Claims Remaining After Amendment	Highest Number Paid For	Number Extra Claims	Small Entity Rate	Large Entity Rate	FEE					
Total Claims Fee	20	*24	0	0 x \$25.00	0 x \$50.00	0					
Independent Claims	2	** 4	0	0 x \$100.00	0 x \$200.00	0					
Multiple Dependent Claims ***				\$180.00	\$360.00	0					
TOTAL FILING FEE						0					
NO ADDITIONAL FEE REQUIRED	IF NO FEE REQUIRED, INSERT "0"					0					
LIST INDEPENDENT CLAIMS: 27 and 34											
* IF HIGHEST NUMBER PREVIOUSLY PAID FOR IS 20 OR LESS, WRITE "20" IN COLUMN 3 ** IF HIGHEST NUMBER PREVIOUSLY PAID FOR IS 3 OR LESS, WRITE "3" IN COLUMN 3 *** PAY THIS FEE ONLY WHEN MULTIPLE DEPENDENT CLAIMS ARE ADDED FOR THE FIRST TIME											

**Amendment Transmittal Letter
Application No. 10/647,096**

Attached is our check for \$0 to pay the fees calculated above.
A Petition for Extension of Time and the required fee are enclosed.
Other enclosures:

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees under 37 CFR 1.16 and 1.17 which may be required by or to give effect to this paper to Deposit Account No. 03-1728. Please show our docket number with any charge or credit to our Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

CHRISTIE, PARKER & HALE, LLP

By Mark Garscia
Mark Garscia
Reg. No. 31,953
626/795-9900

MEG/frs

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PATENT
RESPONSE UNDER 37 CFR 1.116
EXPEDITED PROCEDURE
EXAMINING GROUP 3738

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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Signature

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Docket No.	: 56731/B884	
Customer No.	: 23363	

**AMENDMENT AFTER FINAL ACTION
AND INTERVIEW SUMMARY**

Mail Stop AF
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Post Office Box 7068
Pasadena, CA 91109-7068
April 13, 2006

Commissioner:

In response to the Office action of November 16, 2005, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 2 of this paper.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 4 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 8 of this paper.